corporations to raise extra-budgetory resources by issuing bonds with tax-free status;

(b) if so, what are the details of such enterprises or corporations and the total amount involved in the issuance of such bonds by each such unit; and

(c) what is expected loss of tax-revenue on this account?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) The following public sector enterprises have been allowed to issue tax free Bonds during 1988-89 (till 20th February, 1989):—

(Rs. in crores)

Name of the Enterprises	Amount
National Thermal Power Corpn. Ltd.	150.00
Power Finance Corpn. Ltd.	650.00
Neyveli Lignite Corpn. Ltd.	160.00
Housing Urban Development Corpn. Ltd.	80.00
Nuclear Power Corpn. Ltd.	100.00
Rural Electrification Corpn. Ltd.	152.00
Indian Railway Finance Corpn.	600.00
Rural Electrification Corpn. Ltd.	120.00
	2012.00

(c) It is not realistic to calculate any tax loss as that would imply that such bonds could have been issued successfully without any tax benefits.

Remedial measures for sick units

2526. SHRI N. E. BALARAM:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Governor of the Reserve Bank of India has been directed to convene a meeting of bankers and small scale sick units in order to ascertain the causes and extent of sickness and to draw up remedial measures; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) The Reserve Bank of India had convened a meeting on 28-1-1989 for discussions between bankers and borrowers on problems of small scale industrial units including sick units in the State of Maharashtra. The discussions covered, inter-alia, the nature of assistance required by sick units from financing partners. It was also underlined that periodic discussions of this nature involving representatives of banks, State Finance Corporations and owners of sick units would substantially helps to sort out the problems faced by the sick units.

Development of backward areas

2527. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the term lending by development financial institutions for projects in backward areas has sharply come down in 1987-88; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) Sanctions of assis-